

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EDITORIAL COMMENT ON PRESIDENT FORD'S SPEECH BEFORE
CONGRESS; SADAT'S TELEGRAM TO NIXON

1. EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AUGUST 14 FOCUSED ON
PLEDGETO FOLLOW NIXON'S FOREIGN POLICY. AL AHRAH QUOTING OFFICIAL
AMERICAN SOURCES, POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESIDENT USED LANGUAGE
MUCH THE SAME AS PRESIDENT NIXON HAS USED; HE DID NOT REFER
DIRECTLY TO ISRAEL OR THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL, AND FOR
THE FIRST TIME HE MENTIONED MOSLEMS (AS WELL AS OTHERS) IN HIS
SECTION ON PROTECTION FOR RELIGIOUS GROUPS OF ALL KINDS.

2. AL AKBBAR IN ITS EDITORIAL WARNS, HOWEVER, THAT WHILE
PRESIDENT FORD'S AVOWED INTENTION TO CONTINUE WITH THE PREVIOUS
ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE MET WITH A CERTAIN
AMOUNT OF RELIEF THROUGHOUT THE ARAB WORLD, IT SHOULD BE NOTED
THAT ALL OF MR. NIXON'S INITIATIVES ARE STILL IN THE BEGINNING
STAGES. A CHANGE IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS THE MIDDLE EAST
CAME ABOUT ONLY AFTER THE RECENT ARAB/ISRAELI WAR IN WHICH THE
U.S. REALIZED THAT ISRAEL WAS UNABLE TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS IN
THIS VITAL AREA. U.S. POLICY IS THEREFORE ORIENTED TOWARDS U.S.
INTERESTS. AL AKHBAR WARNS THAT THE FORCES WHICH OVERTHREW NIXON
(SIC) BECAUSE THEY OPPOSED HIS INITIATIVES, BOTH DOMESTIC AND
FOREIGN, WILL ALSO TRY TO WRECK THE WORK OF THE NEW PRESIDENT.
PRESIDENT FORD HAS NOT ONLY THE RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTINUE THE
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INITIATIVES, BUT TO MAKE THEM BEAR FRUIT "TO SERVE THE JUST CAUSE

OF PEACE."

3. ALL NEWSPAPERS REPORT AUGUST 14 PRESIDENT SADAT'S CABLE TO FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON IN WHICH SADAT EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR "THE GOOD SPIRIT AND FARSIGHTEDNESS ON WHICH WERE BUILT THE BRIDGES OF CONFIDENCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE ARAB NATION." SADAT ALSO RECALLED THE NIXON VISIT TO EGYPT AND HIS TALKS WITH THE FORMER PRESIDENT WHICH AFFIRMED "HIS (NIXON'S) CONVICTION THAT THE RIGHTS OF THE ARAB NATION IN ITS ASPIRATION FOR A PERMANENT PEACE IN THE AREA MUST BE RESPECTED". PRESIDENT SADAT WISHED THE FORMER PRESIDENT AND HIS FAMILY SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS. EILTS

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